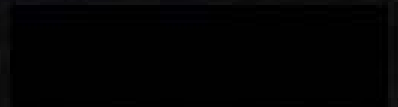


Canyon Ferry 2004 Summary

A scenic photograph of a sunset over a large body of water, likely a lake or reservoir. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm, golden glow across the sky and reflecting on the water's surface. The sky is filled with soft, wispy clouds. In the background, a range of dark, silhouetted mountains stretches across the horizon. The foreground shows a dark, silhouetted shoreline with some trees on the right side.

UMRRMP Update

12/9/2004

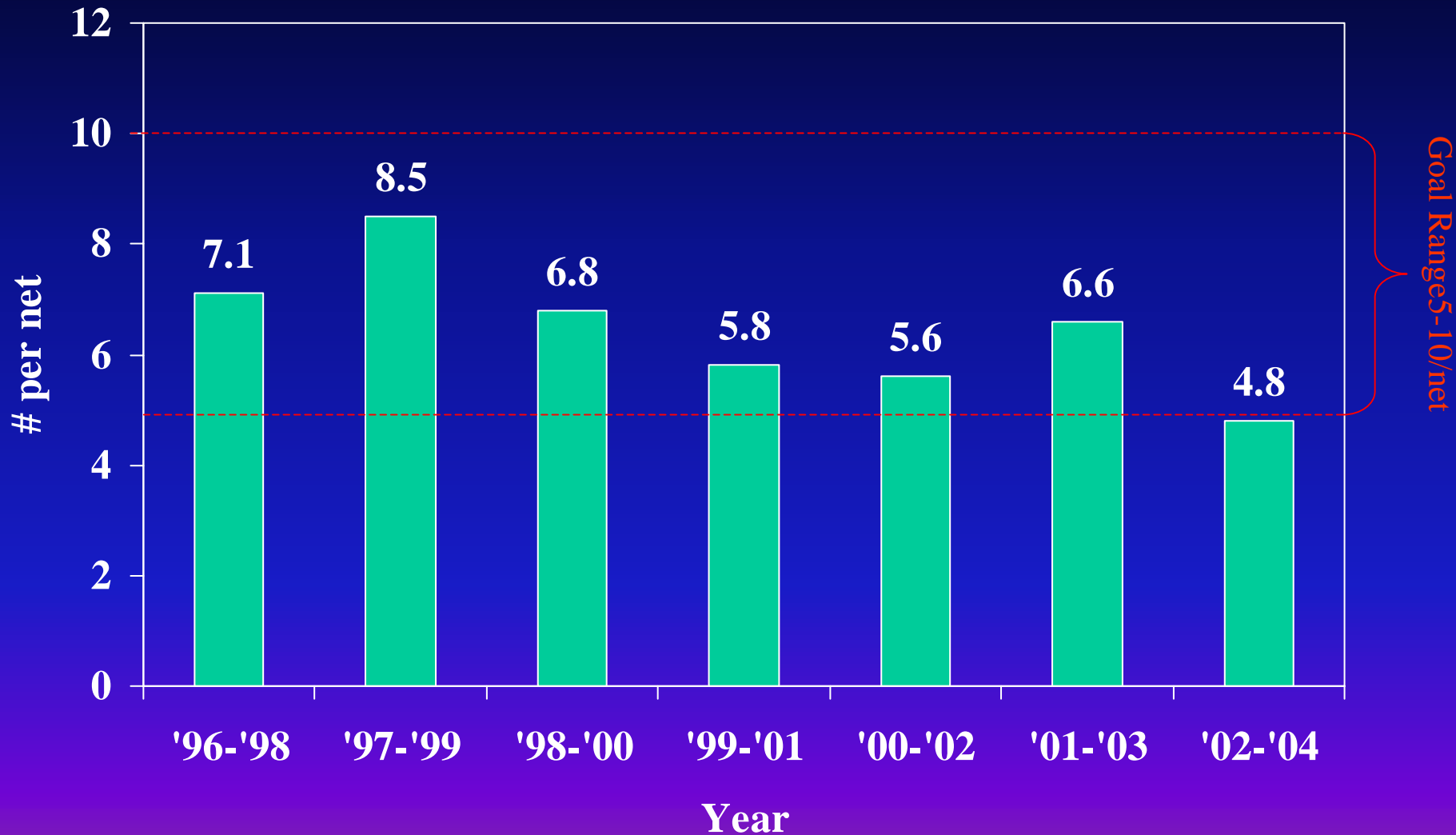


Upper Missouri River Reservoir Fisheries Management Plan

- Additional suppression techniques [for walleye] will be implemented if, based on a three-year running average..., any two of the following criteria are exceeded:
 1. Walleye density increases above 10 fish per net.
 2. Yellow perch density decreases to 15 per net.
 3. Rainbow trout density decreases to 8 per net.
- Should fall monitoring show a decline in walleye to below five per net based on a three-year running average, the department will propose a reduction in the daily and possession limits to protect walleye.

Walleye Management Trend

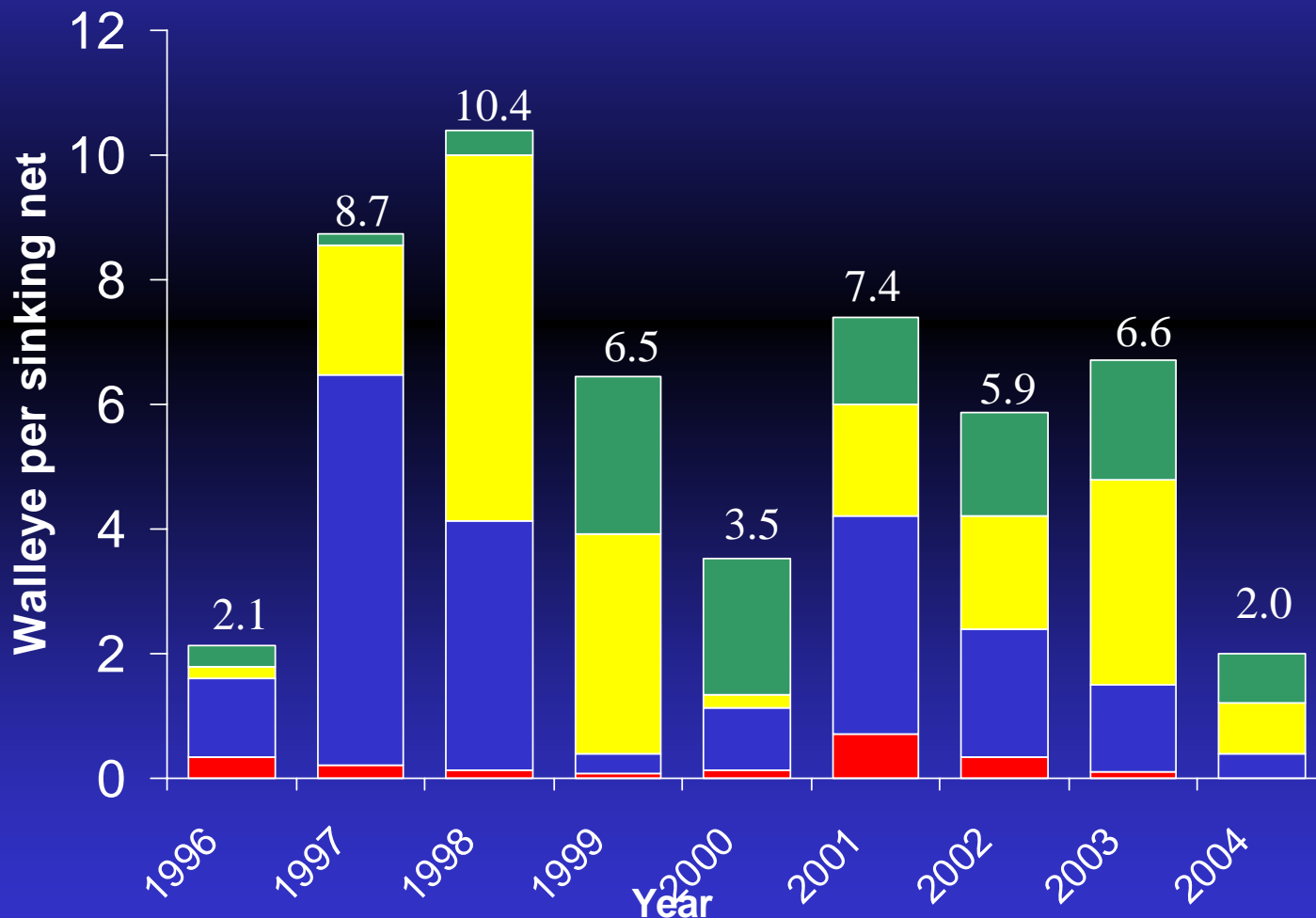
Three-year average catch rates (Fall sinking gill nets)



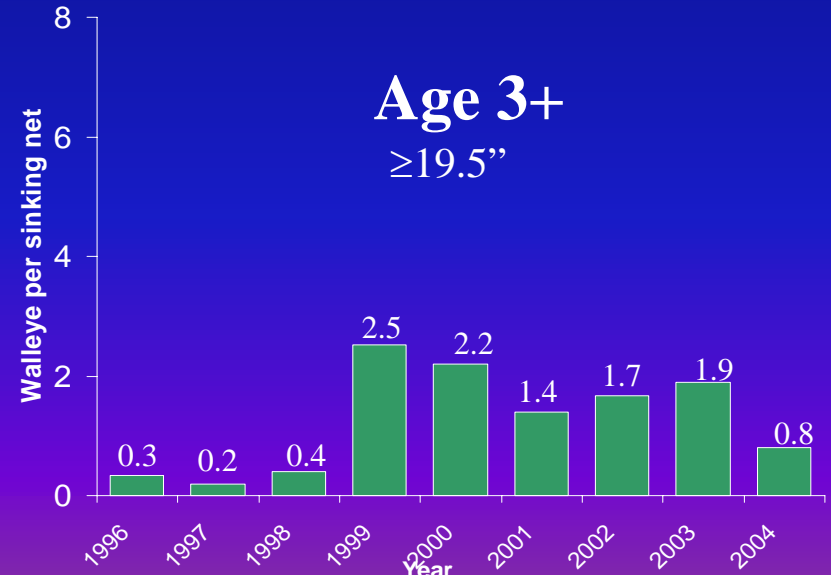
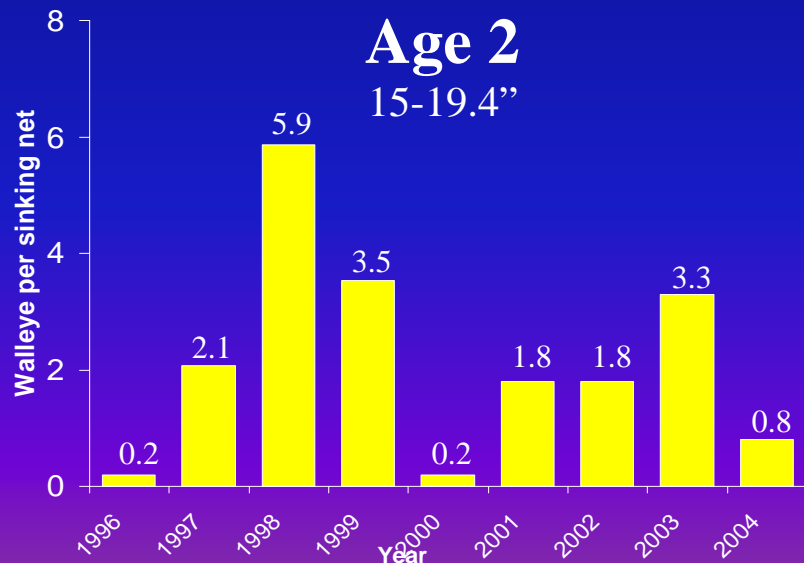
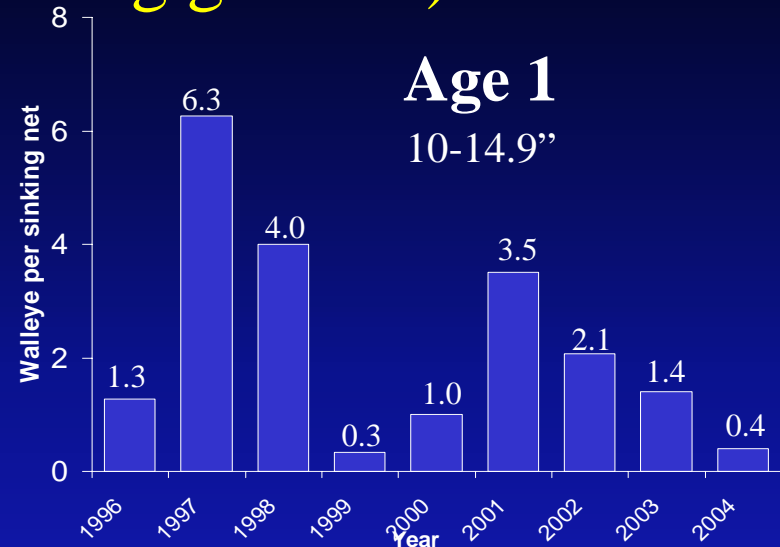
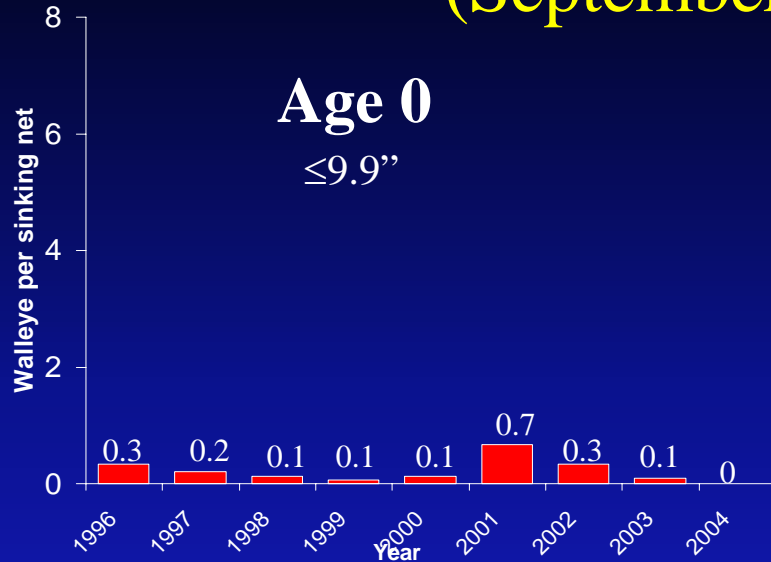
Canyon Ferry Walleye Trend

(September sinking gill nets)

■ Age 0 ■ Age 1 ■ Age 2 ■ Age 3 and older



Canyon Ferry Walleye Trend by Age Class (September sinking gill nets)



Condition of Lake Oahe Walleyes

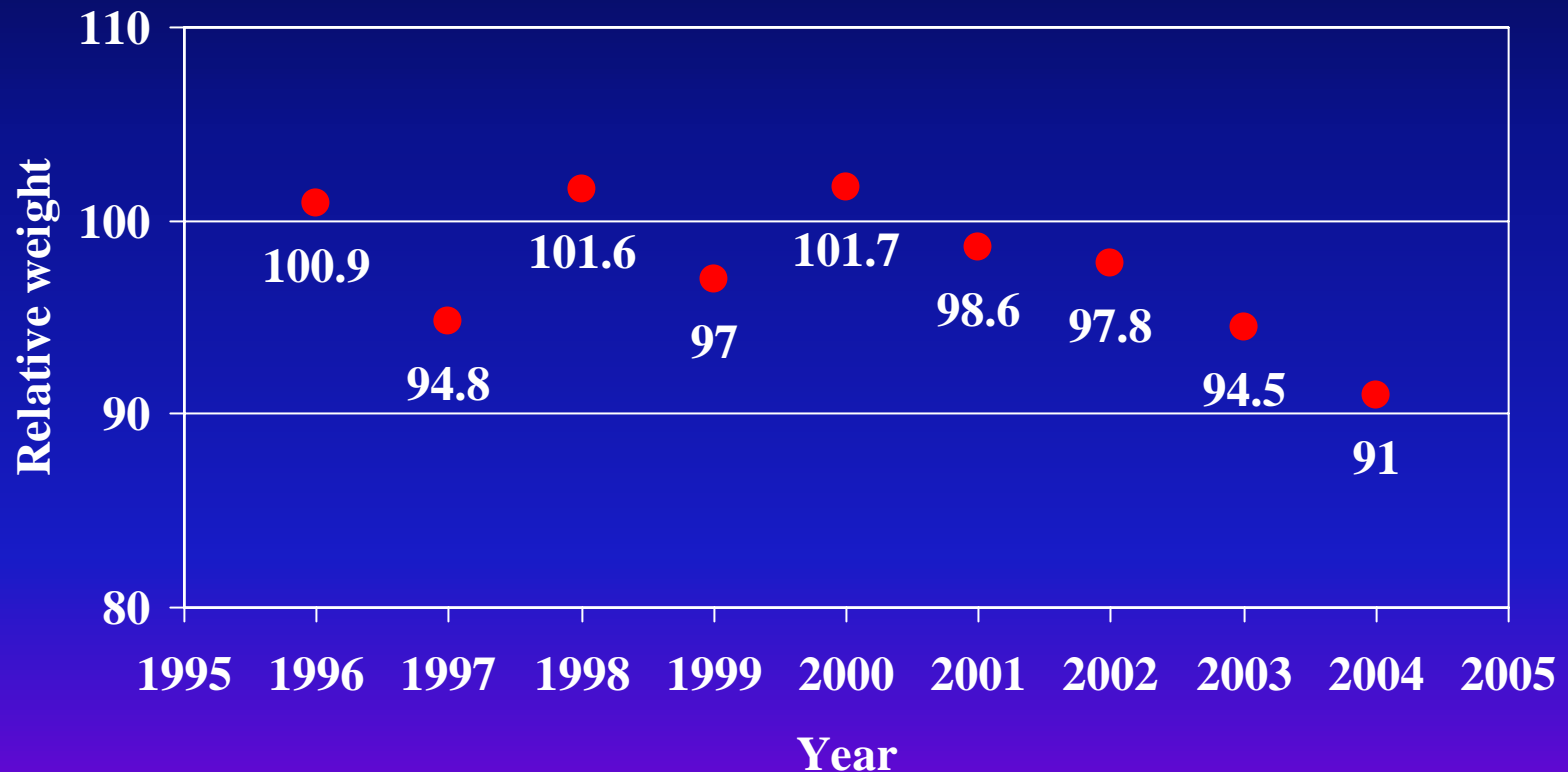
Relative Weight

105
100
95
90
85
80
75
70
65



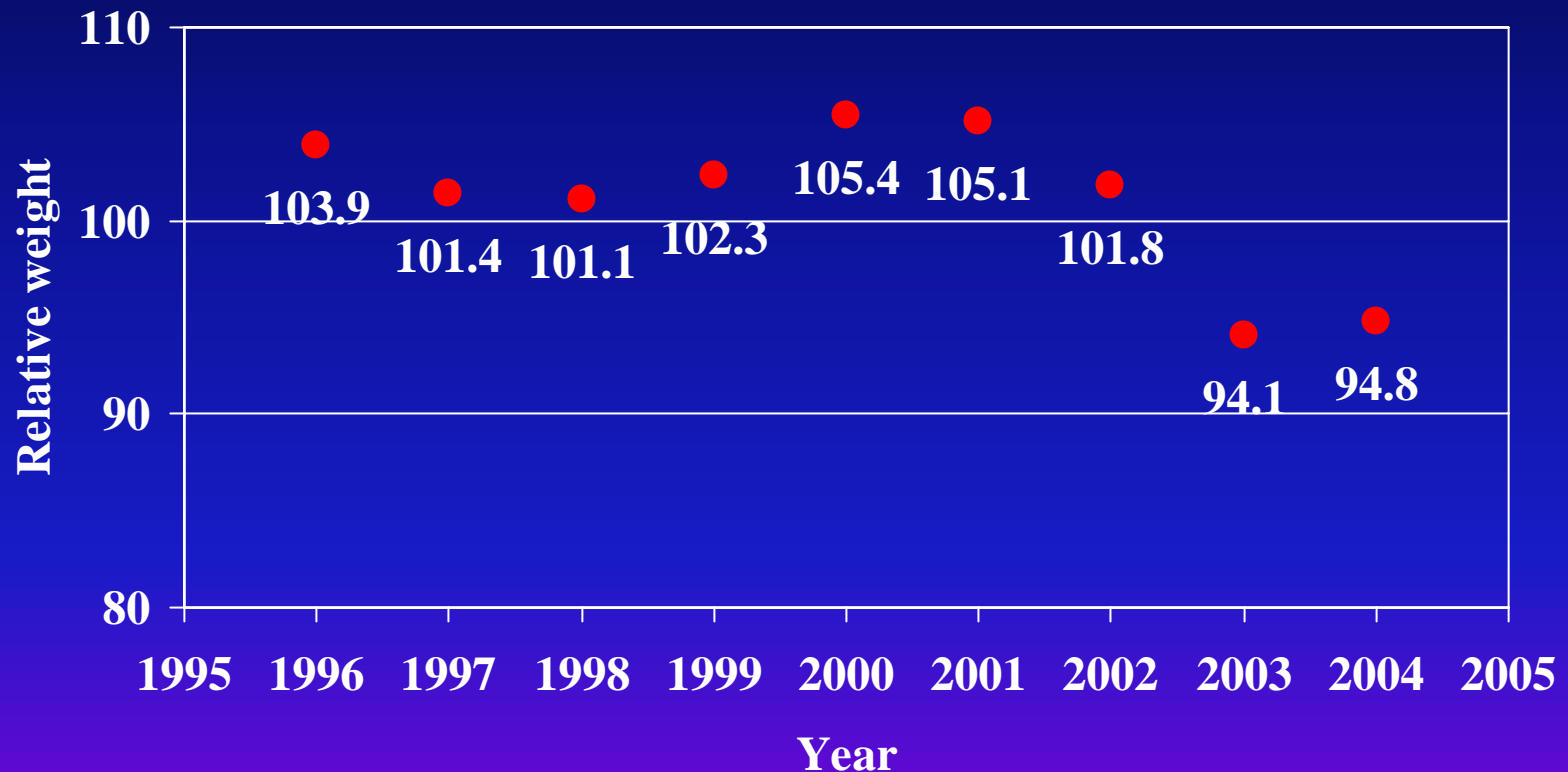
Relative Weight

10.0-14.9" Walleye (September sinking gill nets)



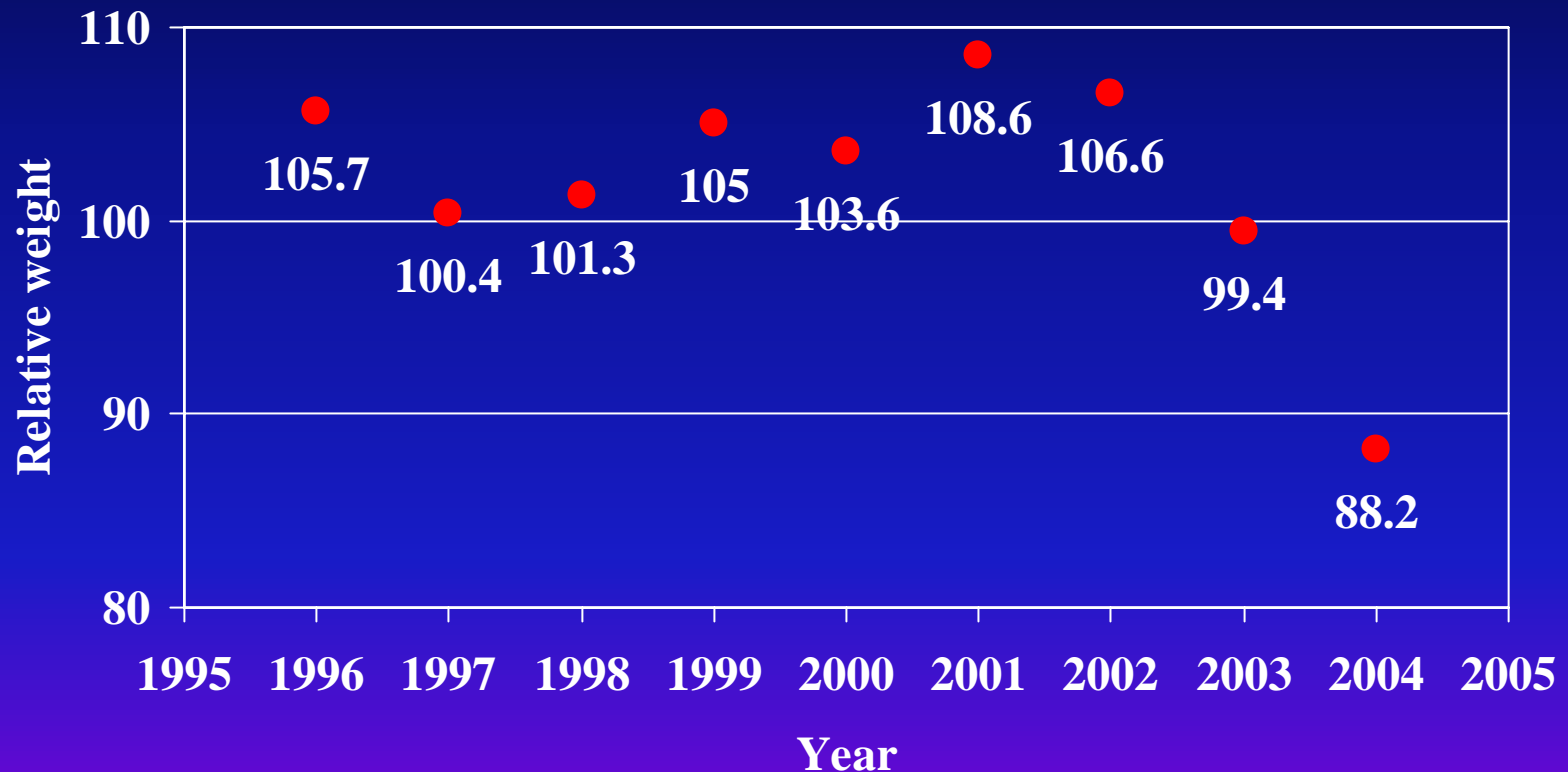
Relative Weight

15.0-19.9" Walleye (September sinking gill nets)

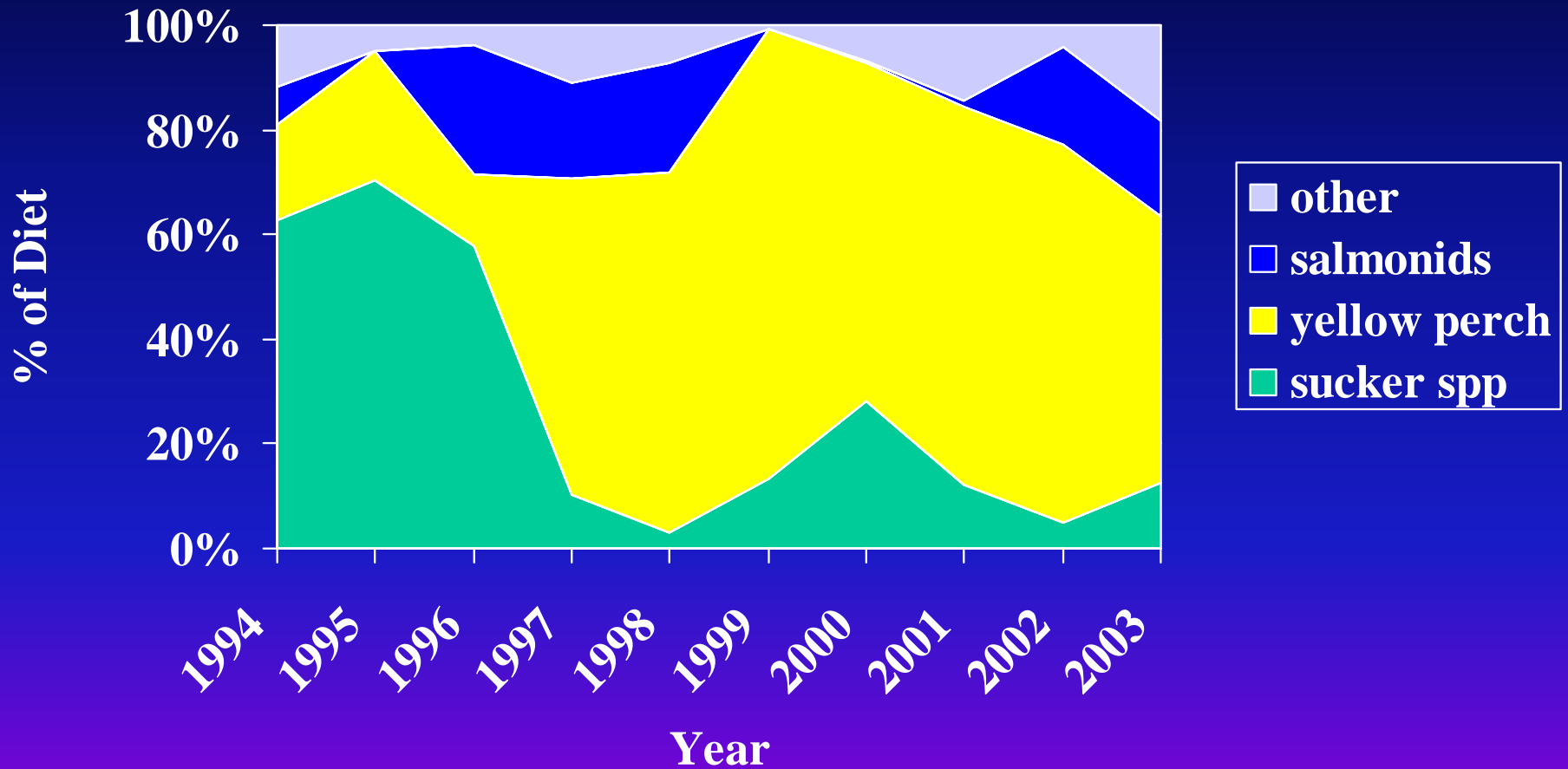


Relative Weight

20.0-24.9" Walleye (September sinking gill nets)



Walleye Diet

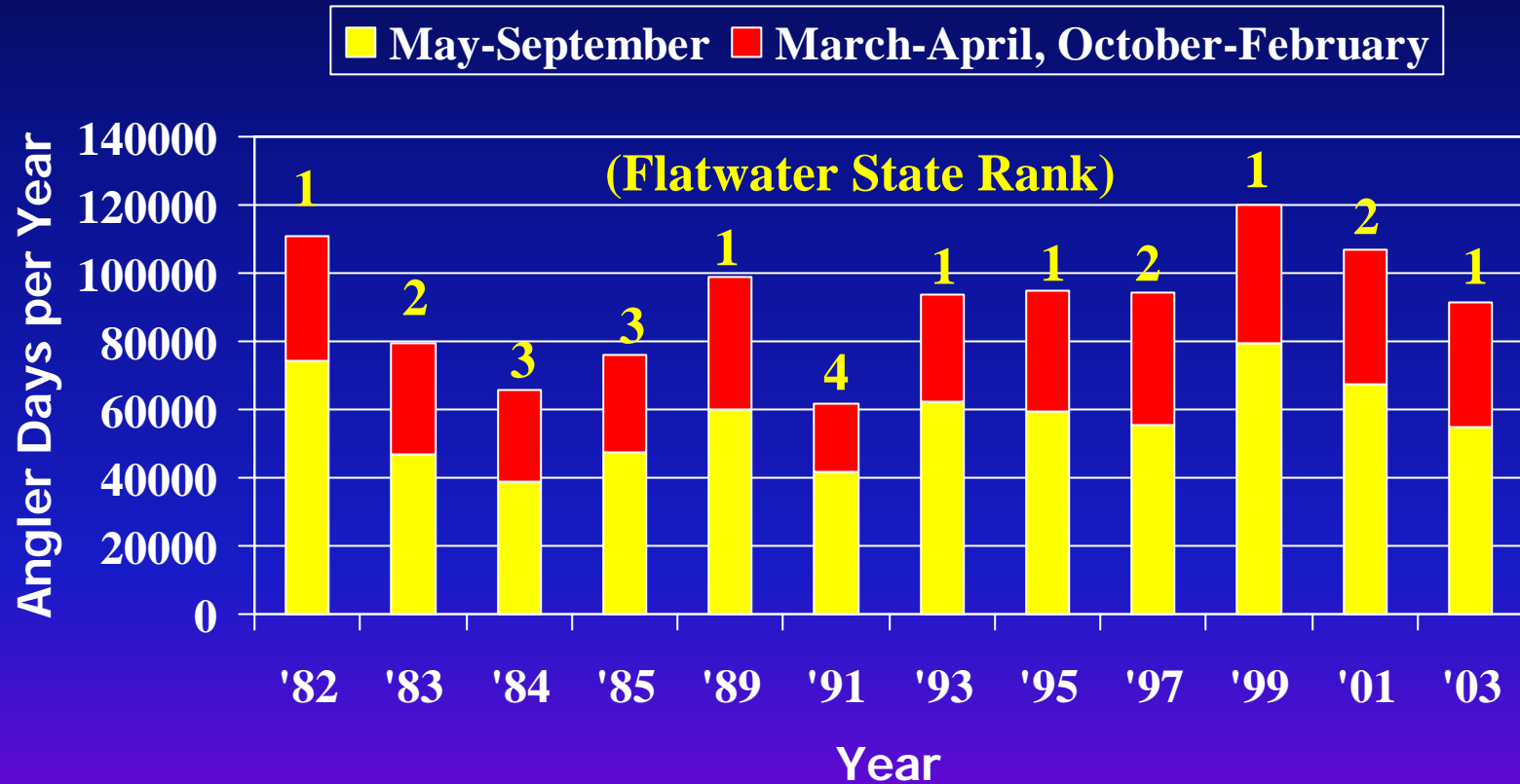


Walleye Population Estimate

- Floy tagged 1,111 walleye during the Canyon Ferry Walleye Festival (June 26-27).
- Approximately 10% of tagged fish were caught and information sent to FWP.
- Information from returned tags were used to calculate a population estimate of 33,815 walleye (1 SD=3,737) on the south end of the reservoir in July.
- This information will potentially help us estimate harvest rates, reservoir-wide walleye abundance & sustainable walleye densities.

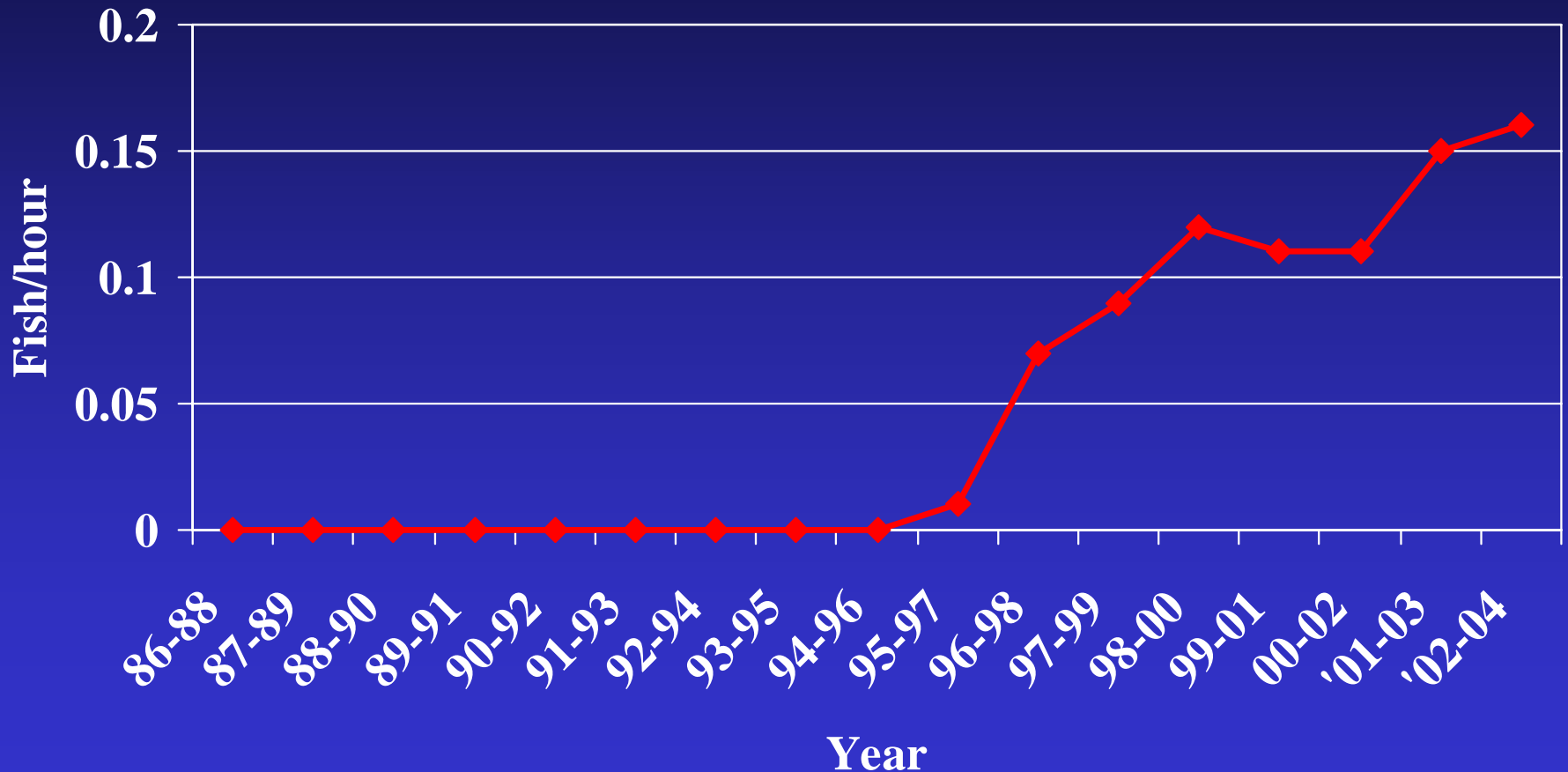
Angling Pressure at Canyon Ferry Reservoir

Summer, Winter and Total Pressure 1982 to 2003



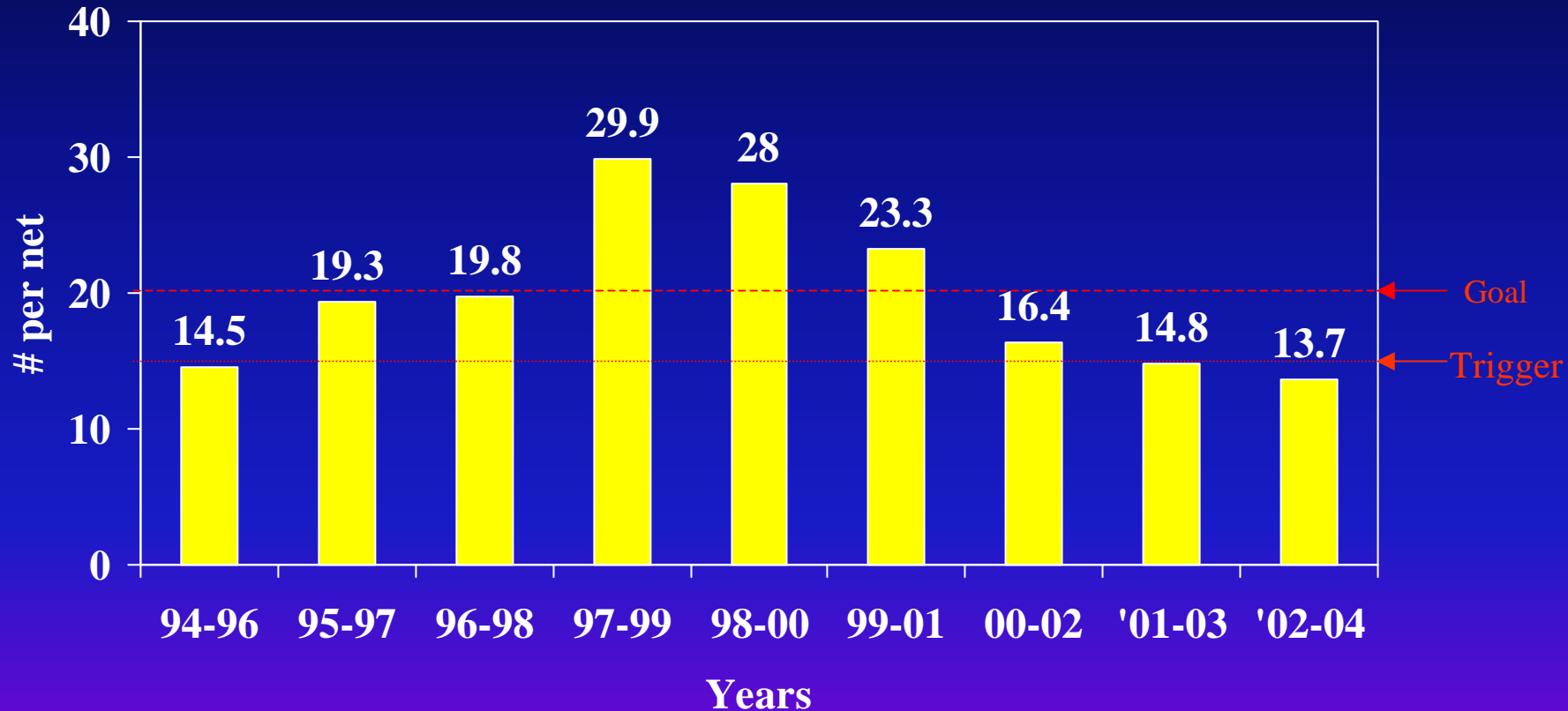
Walleye Angler Catch Rates

Summer anglers targeting only walleye
Three-year running average



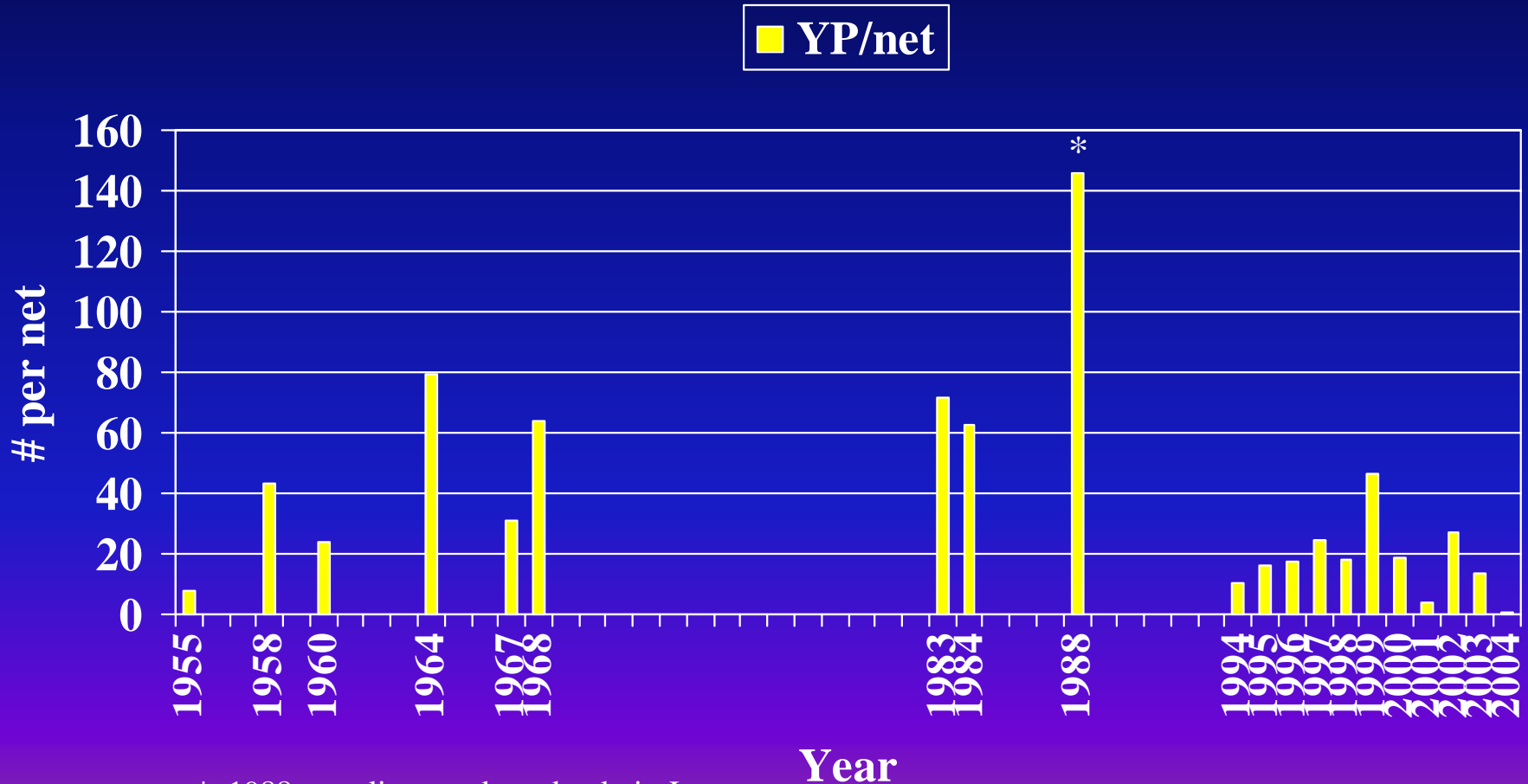
Perch Management Trend

Three-year average catch rates (June and August sinking gill nets)



Yellow Perch in the Historic Sinking Net Series

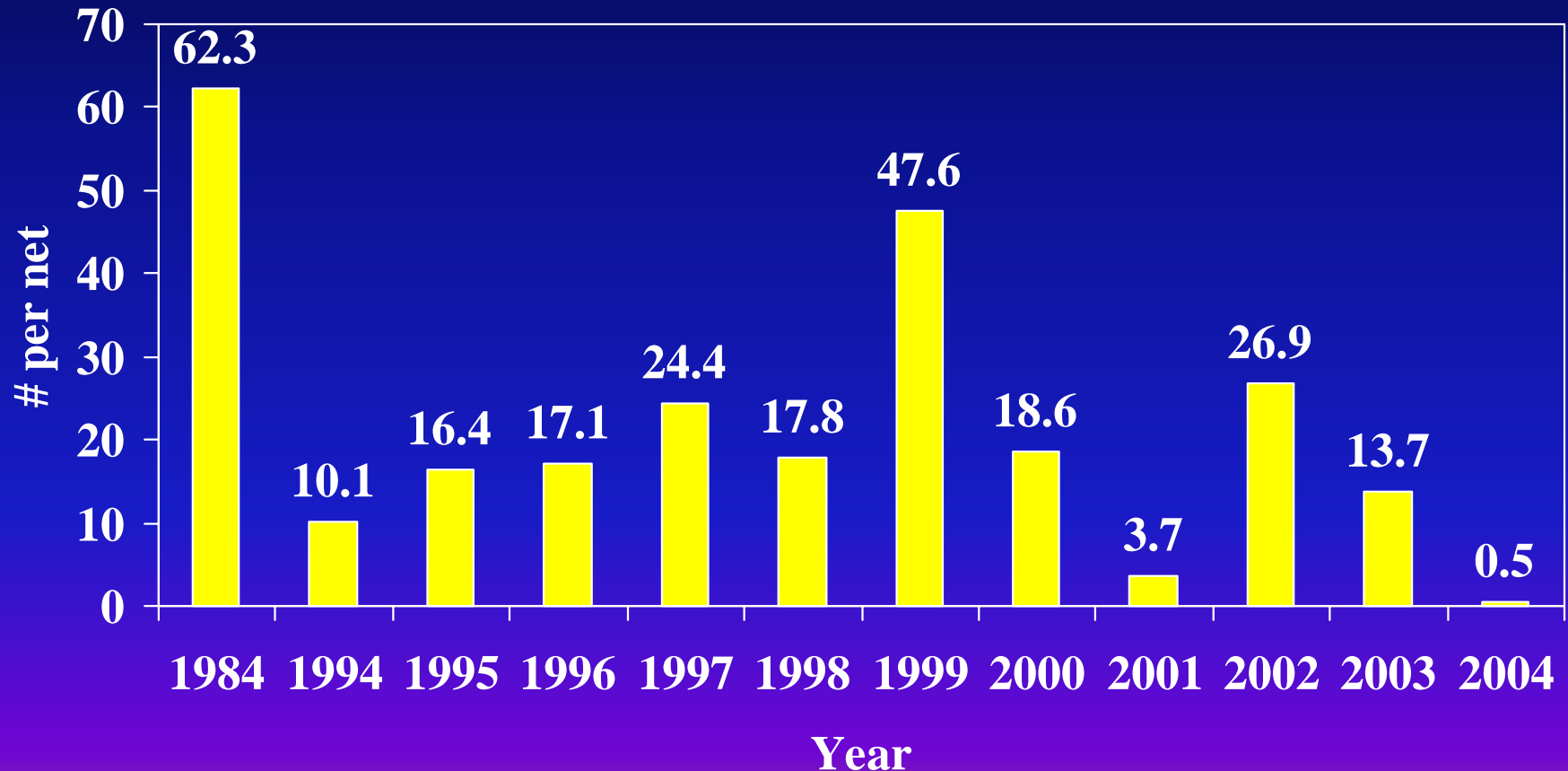
(June and August sinking gill nets)



* 1988 sampling conducted only in June.

Yellow Perch in the Historic Sinking Net Series 1984-2004

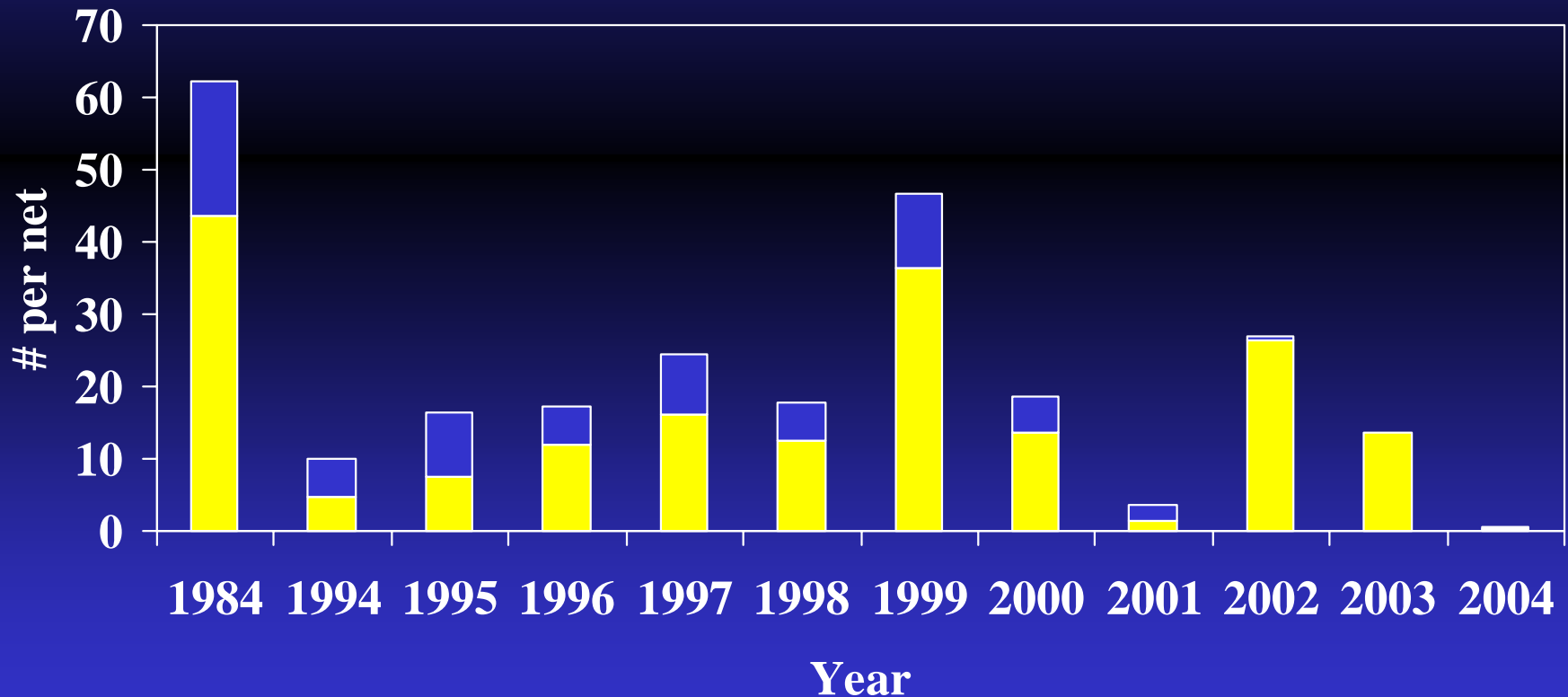
(June and August sinking gill nets)



Yellow Perch in the Historic Sinking Net Series 1984-2004

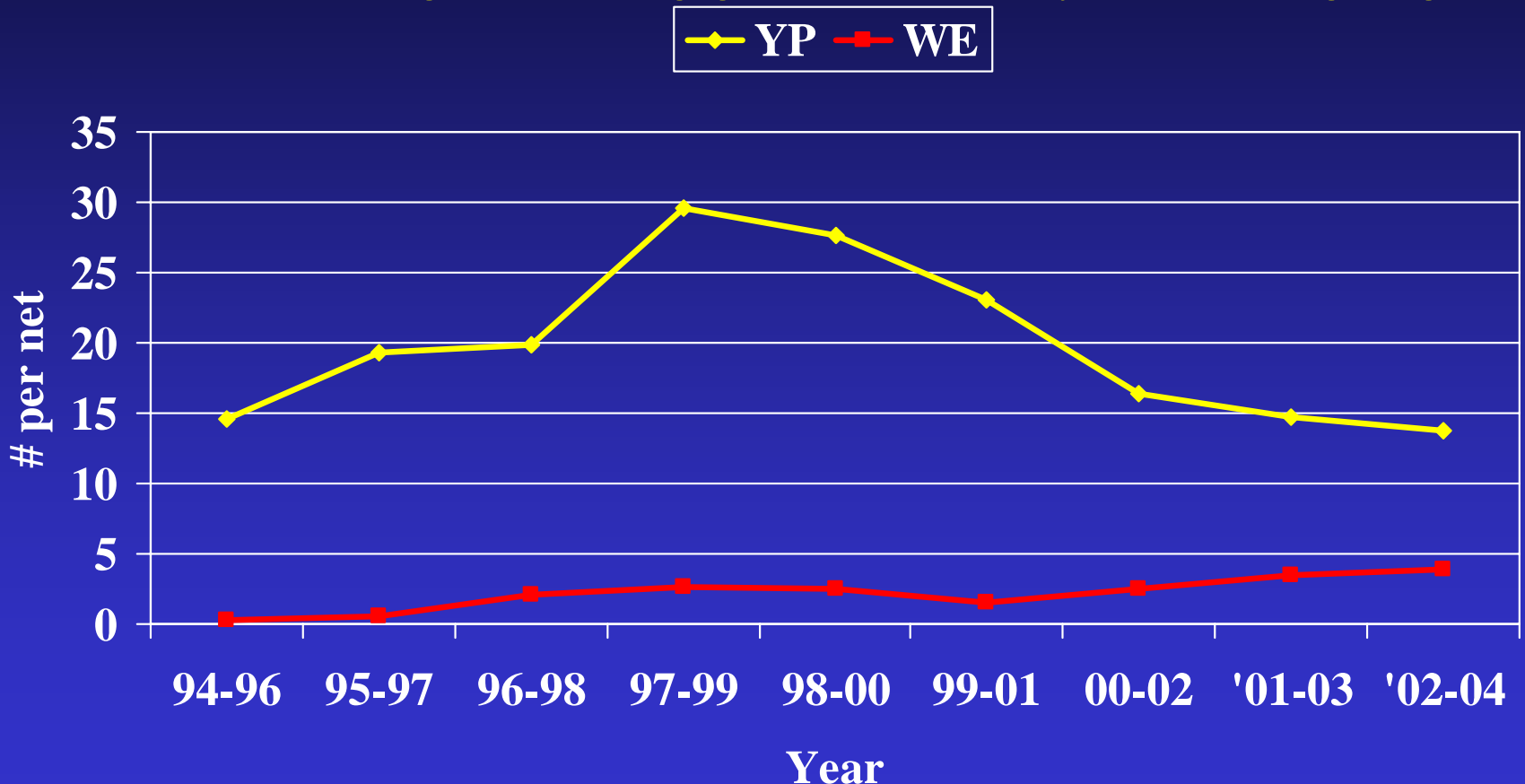
(June and August sinking gill nets)

■ YP $\leq 8''$ ■ YP $> 8''$



Perch and Walleye in the Historic Sinking Net Series

(June and August sinking gill nets, three-year running avg.)

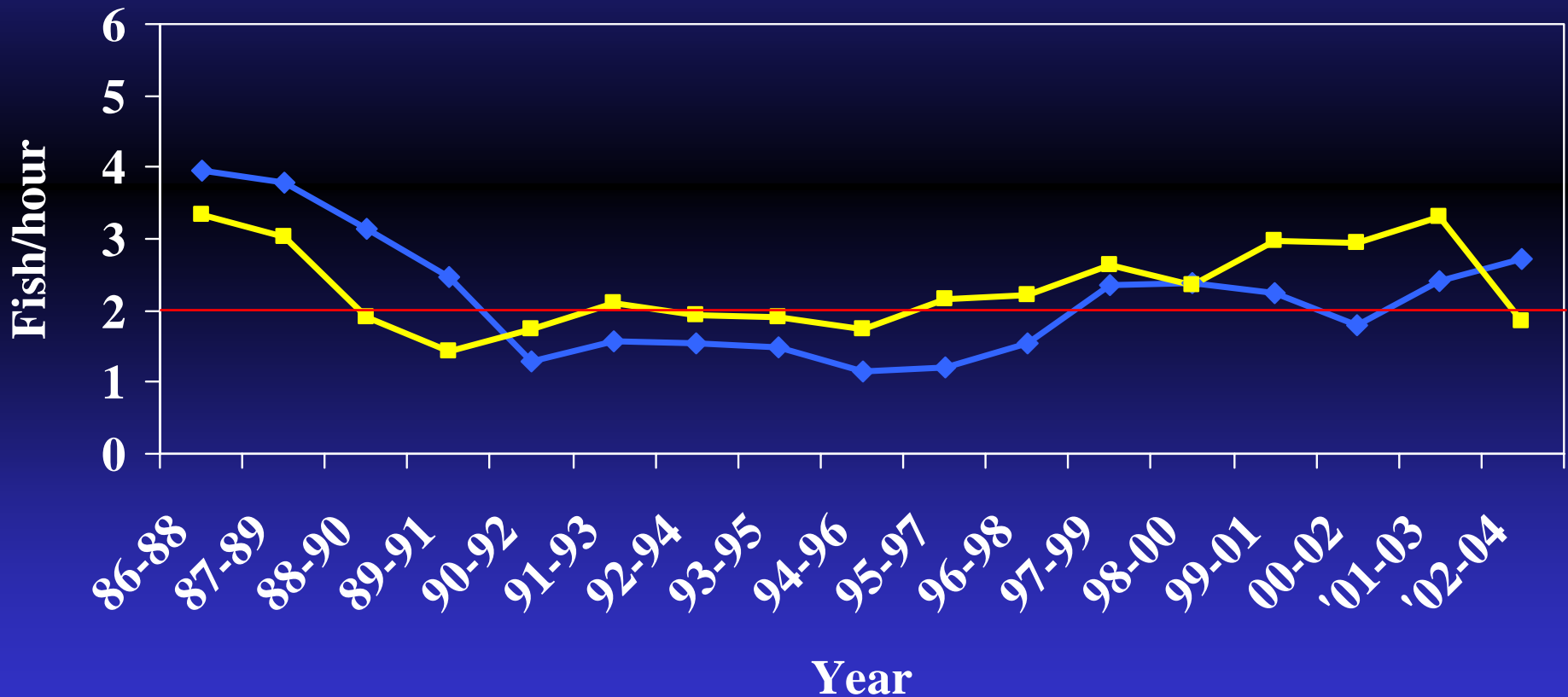


Yellow Perch Angler Catch Rates

Anglers targeting only perch

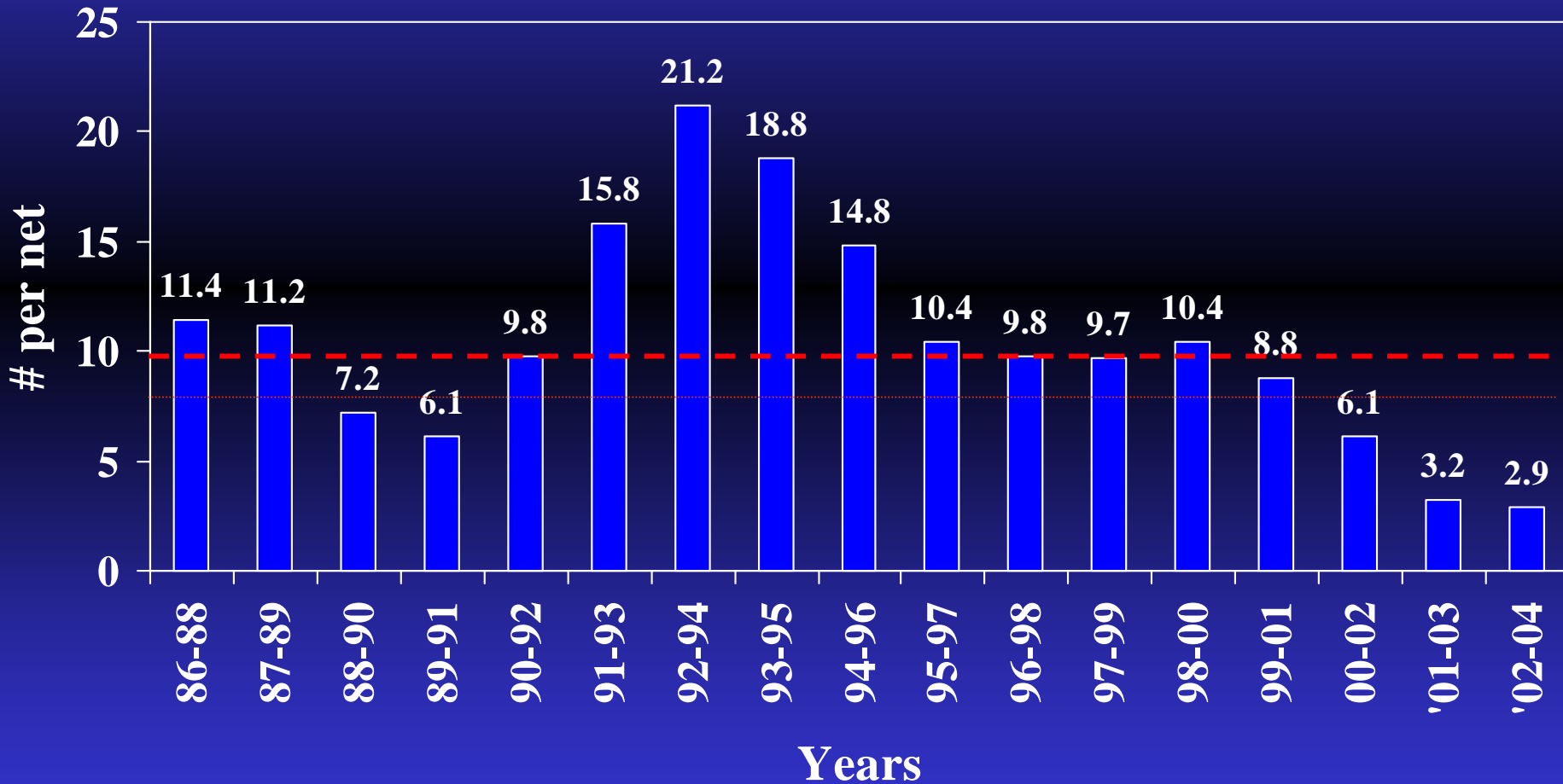
Three-year running average

—◆— Winter —■— Summer



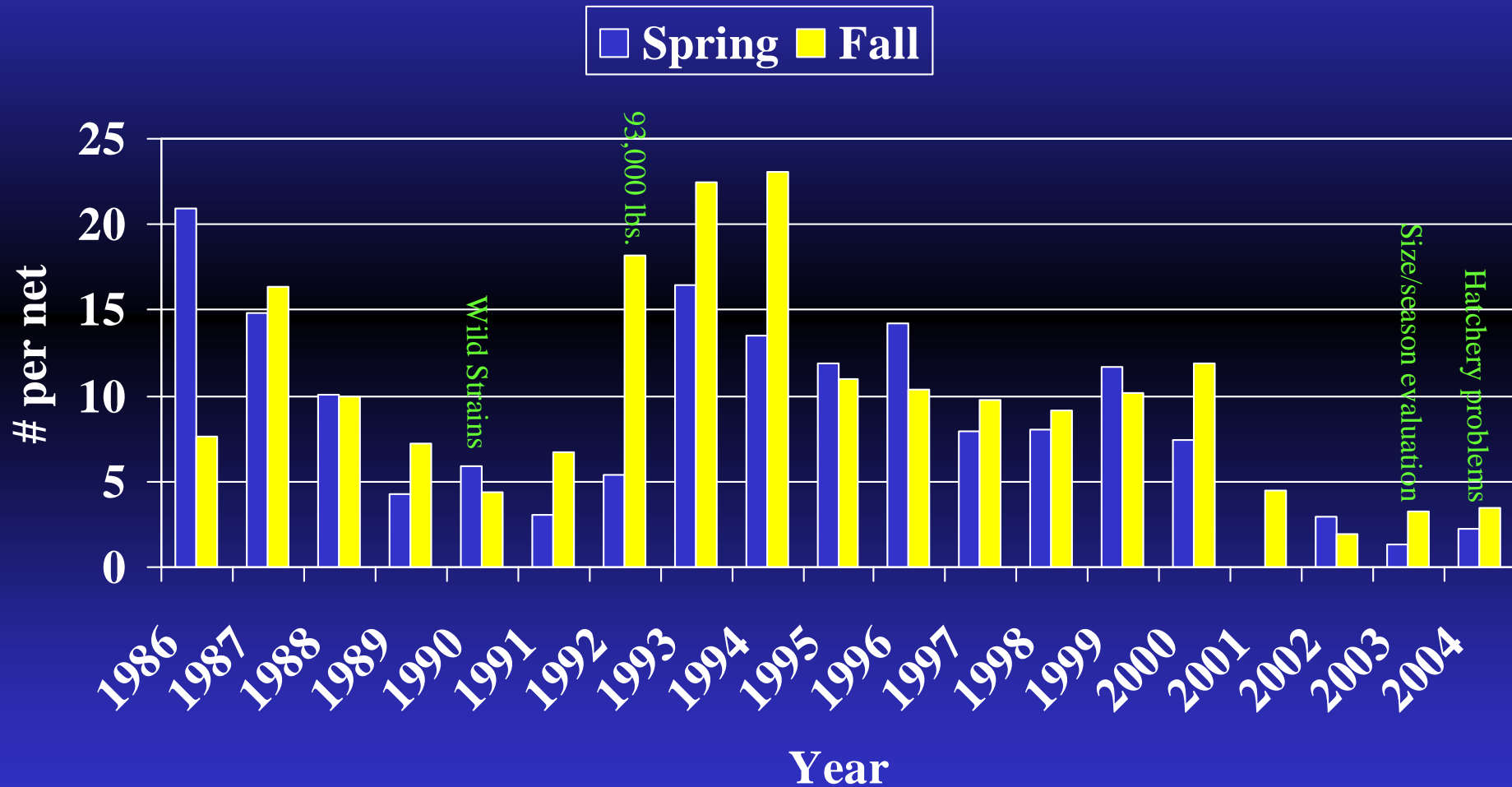
Rainbow Management Trend

Three-year average catch rates (October floating gill nets)



Rainbow Floating Net Trends

(Spring and fall floating gill nets)



Rainbow Stocking Changes

2003:

- Stocked 8” Eagle Lake Rainbows (were stocking 5-6” fish).
- Began stocking half in spring and half in fall to better utilize hatchery space and to evaluate which season had better survival.
- The number of fish stocked is lower due to the larger size, but the pounds of fish remains similar.

NOV 20 2003

Rainbow Stocking Changes

2004:

- Nearly all Canyon Ferry stocked rainbows are from Big Springs hatchery (Lewistown).
- Due to discovery of PCBs in raceways, most fish in the hatchery were destroyed.
- Canyon Ferry received 42% of the fish that were requested for 2004 (requested 300,000 fish, received approximately 126,000).

2005:

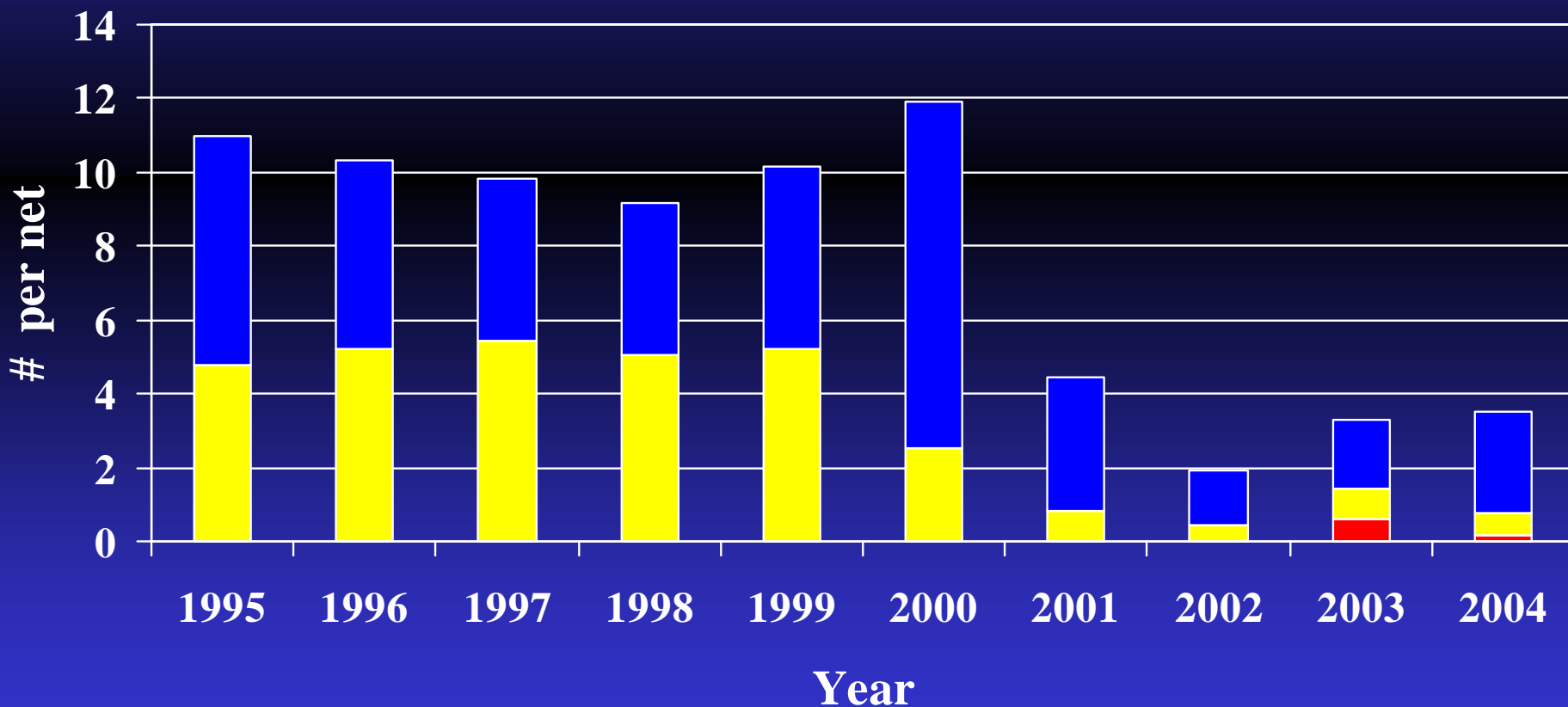
- All plants will be in the fall consisting of Arlee and Eagle Lake strains.

MAY 28 2003

Rainbow Floating Net Trends, 1995-2004

(October floating gill nets)

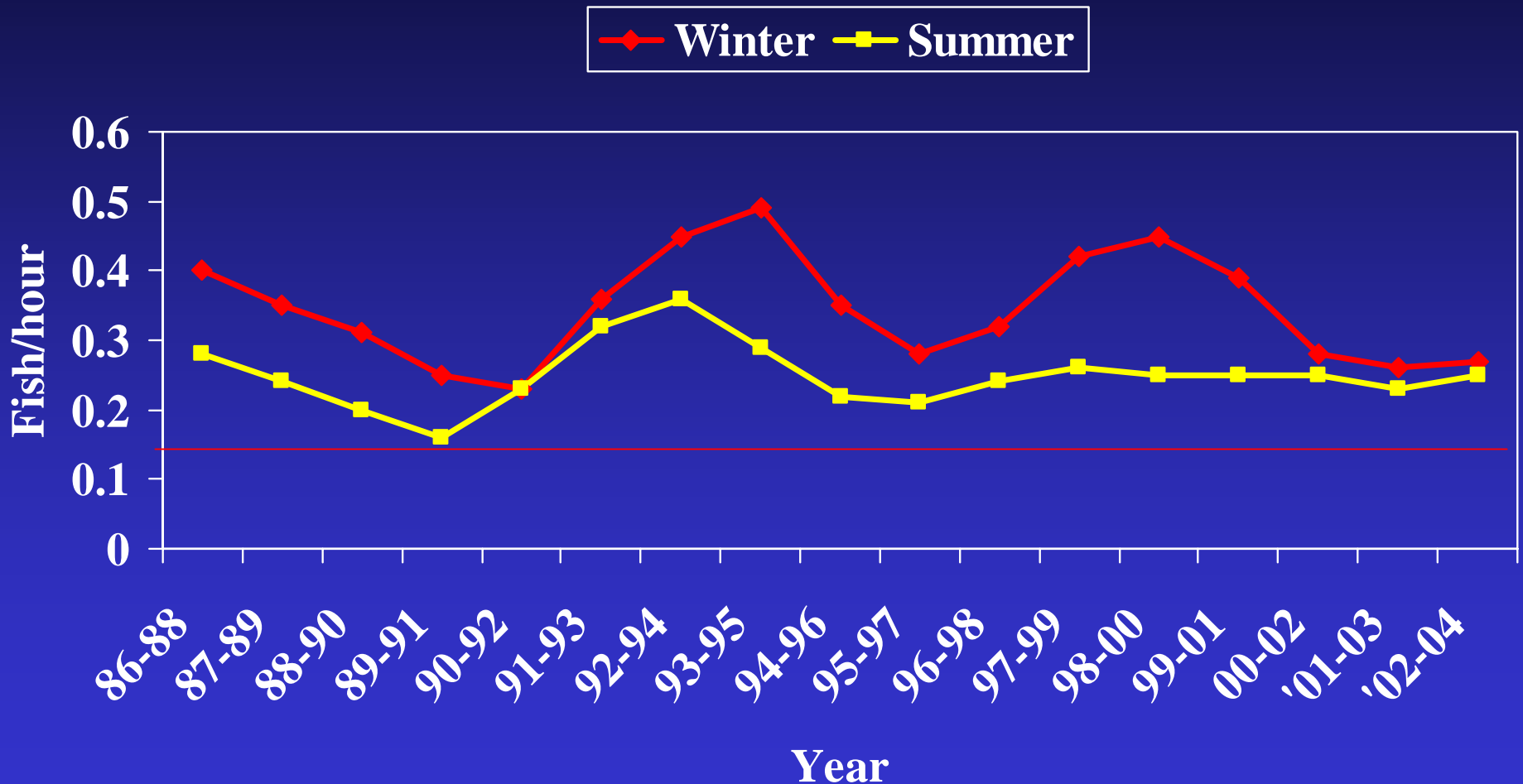
■ FALL PLANTS ■ SPRING YEARLING ■ AGE 2+



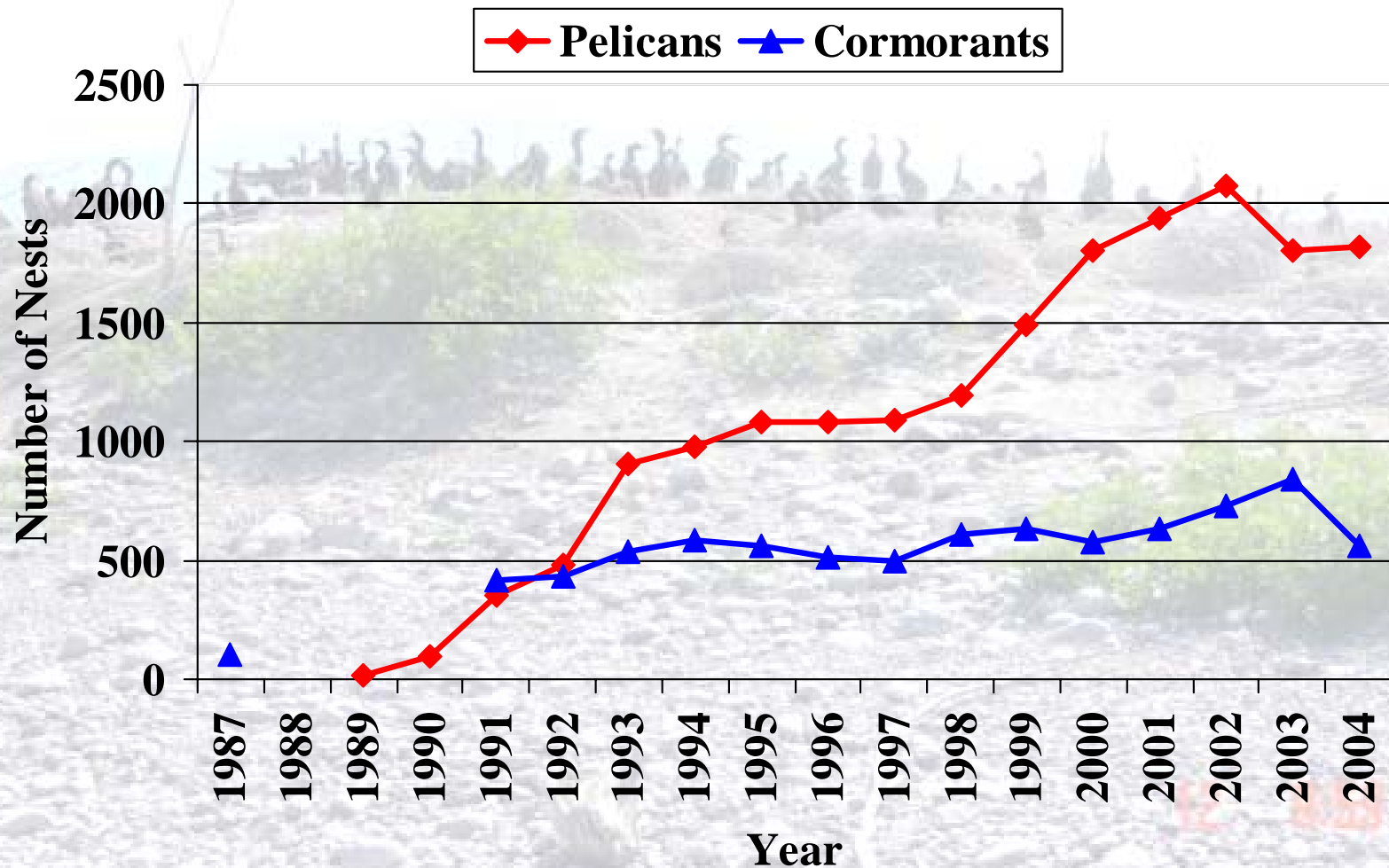
Rainbow Trout Angler Catch Rates

Anglers targeting only trout

Three-year running average



Canyon Ferry WMA Pelican and Cormorant Nests



Bird Diet Observations

- Checked colony twice (6/4 and 6/21/2004).
- On 6/4—20 cormorant nest observations with only one identifiable trout observation.
- Spring stocking of rainbows began on 6/14 at Hellgate and Goose Bay.
- On 6/21—35 cormorant nest observations with evidence of trout observed in 14 samples (trout were present in 40% observations).

JUN 21 2004

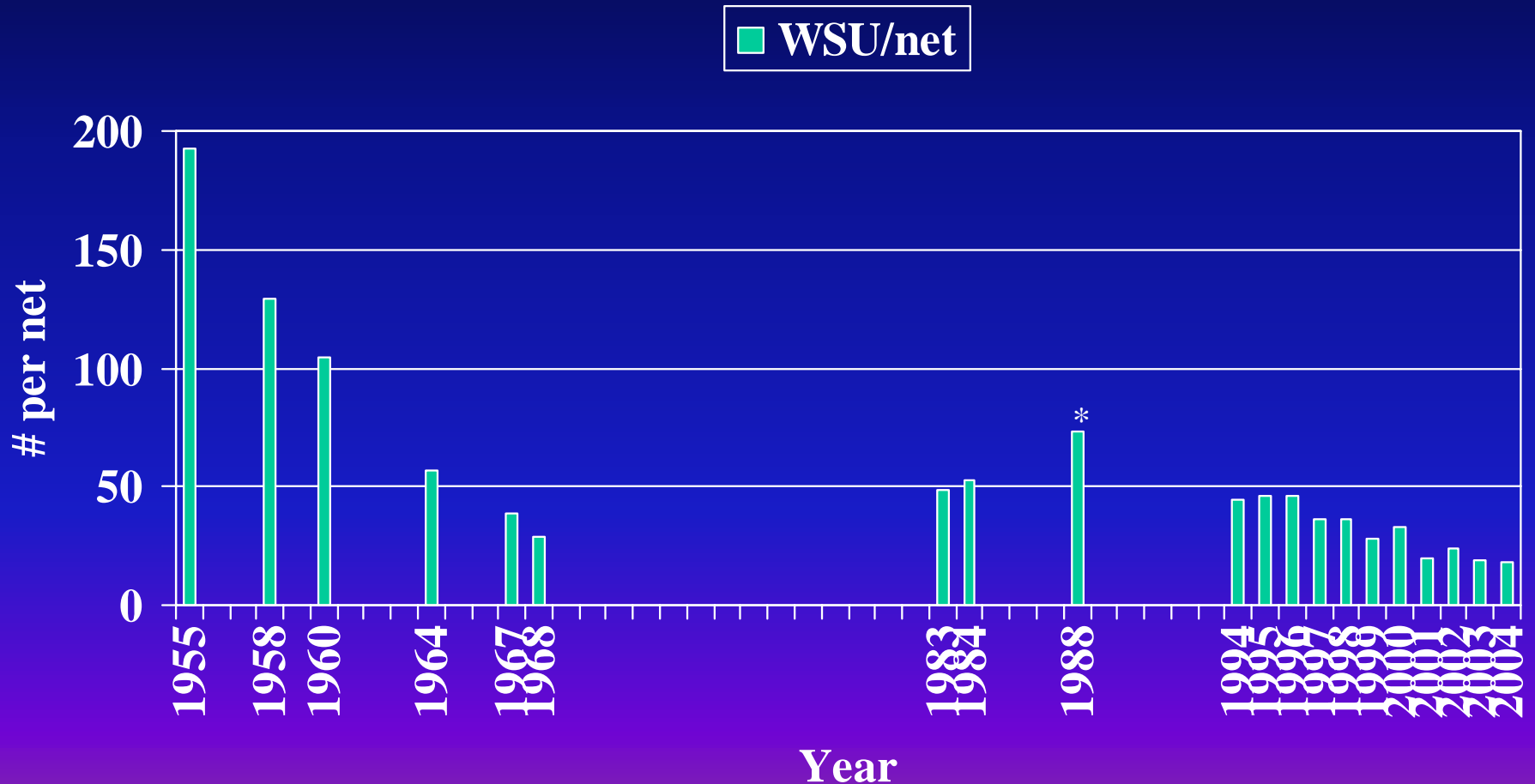
Bird Diet Observations

- Yellow perch were present 29% of the time (19/65 nests) in 2003 and 2% (1/55) in 2004.
- Stonecat was one of the more common food items for cormorants.
- Carp and crayfish were the most common food items for pelicans.
- Trout found in pelican samples were larger-sized fish (not recently planted) compared to cormorant samples which contained juvenile fish.
- Pelican nestlings ranged greatly in size—from freshly hatched to fledged birds.

JUN 21 2004

White Suckers in the Historic Sinking Net Series

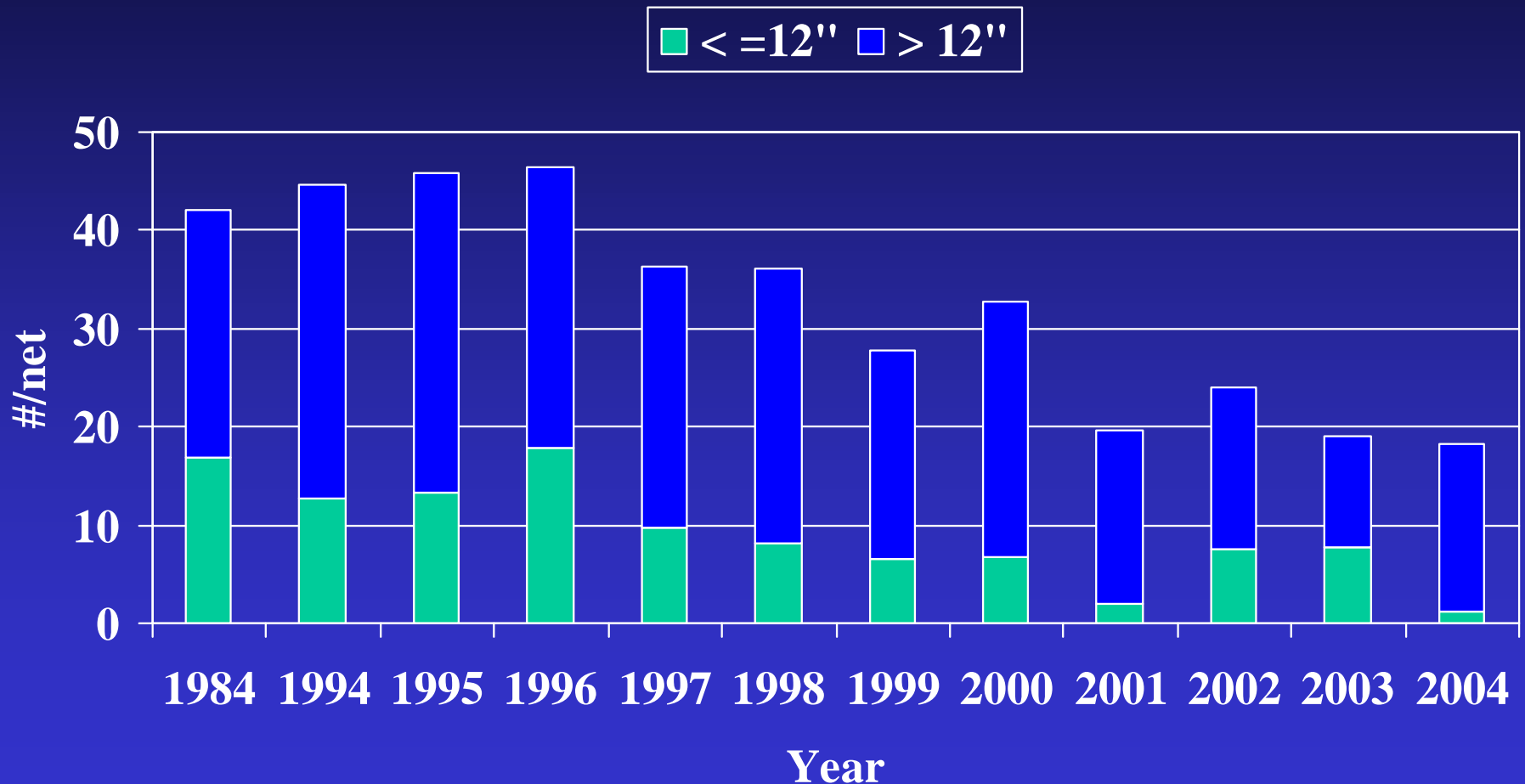
(June and August sinking gill nets)



*1988 sampling conducted only in June.

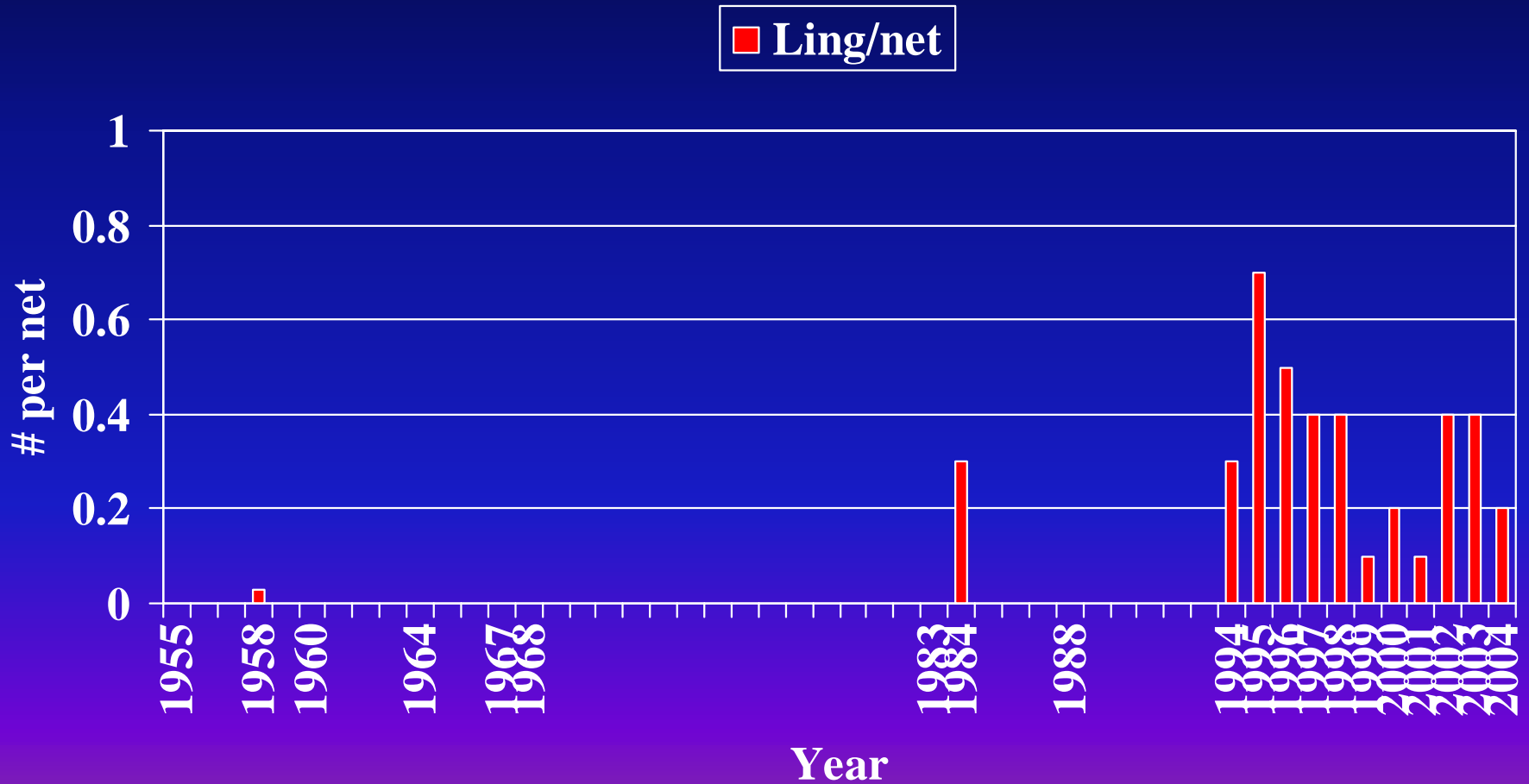
White Suckers in the Historic Sinking Net Series

(June and August sinking gill nets)



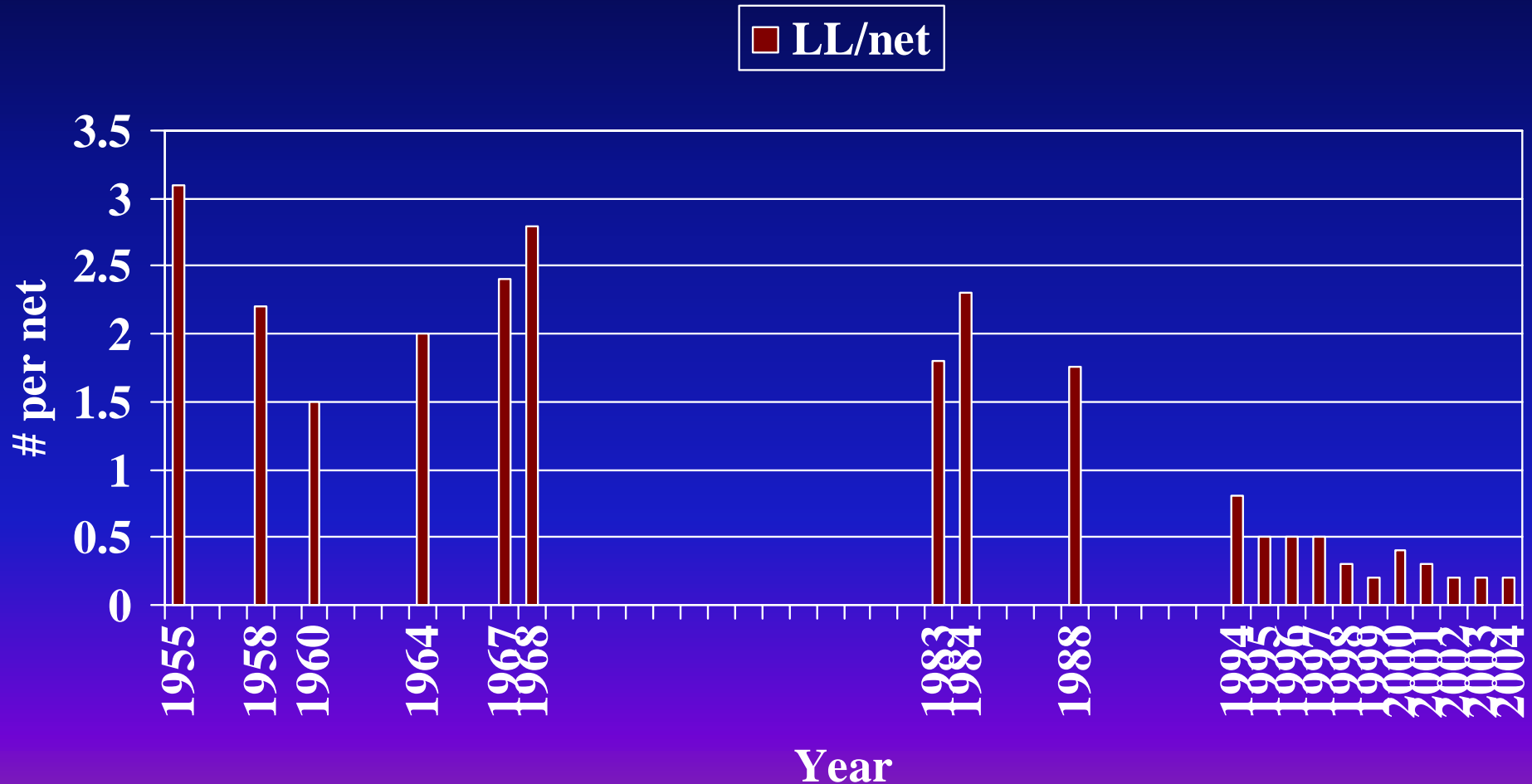
Burbot (ling) in the Historic Sinking Net Series

(June and August sinking gill nets)



Brown Trout in the Historic Sinking Net Series

(June and August sinking gill nets)



Upper Missouri River Reservoir Fisheries Management Plan

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Canyon Ferry Trends

OCT 14 2004

